

What is claimed is:

1. A printing method comprising:

5 a step of performing pre-communication with an external device before print data are obtained from said external device;  
a step of obtaining print data from said external device;  
a step of setting a print condition according to the content  
of said pre-communication; and  
a step of printing on a medium based on said print data  
10 according to said print condition that has been set.

2. A printing method according to claim 1,

15 wherein a reception unit for receiving said print data is specified from among a plurality of reception units depending on the content of said pre-communication, and  
wherein said print condition is set according to the reception unit that is specified.

3. A printing method according to claim 2,

20 wherein said reception unit receives print data from said external device either wirelessly or via a wire.

4. A printing method according to claim 2,

25 wherein said reception unit is a logic channel that has been set logically.

5. A printing method according to claim 4,

30 wherein said logic channel is set in compliance with a transfer format that is used when receiving data from said external device.

6. A printing method according to claim 5,  
wherein said transfer format is at least one of  
a profile for transferring text data or  
a profile for transferring image data.

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7. A printing method according to claim 2,  
wherein in said pre-communication, information for  
designating said reception unit is received from said external  
10 device, and

wherein said print condition is set in accordance with said  
information for designating said reception unit that is received.

8. A printing method according to claim 7,

15 wherein a lookup table correlating said reception unit and  
said print condition is prepared, and

wherein said print condition is set based on said lookup  
table and said information for designating said reception unit  
that is received.

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9. A printing method according to claim 7,

wherein said information for designating said reception  
unit is an identifier of said reception unit, and

wherein said print condition is set in accordance with said  
25 identifier that is received.

10. A printing method according to claim 9,

wherein said identifier of said reception unit is sent to  
said external device before said information for designating said  
30 reception unit is received from said external device.

11. A printing method according to claim 2,  
wherein at least one operation of  
an operation of carrying the medium,  
5 an operation of ejecting liquid onto said medium, or  
an operation of a carriage  
is set in accordance with said reception unit that has received  
said print data.

10 12. A printing method according to claim 2,  
wherein printing is carried out on said medium based on pixel  
data that are created based on said print data, and  
wherein said pixel data are created based on said print data  
according to said print condition that has been set in accordance  
15 with said reception unit that has received said print data.

13. A printing method according to claim 1,  
wherein said print condition is prepared for each  
identifier;  
20 wherein at least one identifier is obtained from said  
external device; and  
wherein said print condition is chosen from said print  
condition that has been prepared in advance based on the identifier  
that is received from said external device.

25 14. A printing method according to claim 13,  
wherein a plurality of said identifiers are arranged in a  
hierarchy according to their content;  
wherein a priority order is set for said identifiers  
30 arranged in the hierarchy; and

wherein said print condition is selected based on said priority order.

15. A printing method according to claim 14,

5 wherein at least one of a protocol identifier, a profile identifier, a model name identifier, and a unique address identifier is obtained from said external device, and

wherein based on said identifier that is received from said external device, a print condition is selected from said print 10 conditions prepared in advance.

16. A printing method according to claim 15,

wherein the hierarchy is arranged such that the priority order of said protocol identifier is lowest.

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17. A printing method according to claim 15,

wherein the hierarchy is arranged such that the priority order of said unique address identifier is highest.

20 18. A printing method according to claim 1,

wherein a communications protocol is specified in accordance with the content of said pre-communication, and

wherein said print condition is set in accordance with said communications protocol that has been specified.

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19. A printing method according to claim 18,

wherein a different print condition is set for a Direct Print Service protocol of a Universal Serial Bus, a Basic Imaging Profile of Bluetooth, and a Basic Printing Profile of Bluetooth.

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20. A printing method according to claim 18, further comprising:  
a step of displaying a predetermined print condition on a screen;

5 a step of, when said print condition is set in accordance with said communications protocol that has been specified, displaying said print condition that has been set on said screen in place of said predetermined print condition; and

10 a step of displaying said predetermined print condition on said screen in place of said print condition that has been set after printing has been carried out on a medium based on said print data in accordance with said print condition that has been set.

21. A printing apparatus comprising:

15 a reception section for receiving data from an external device, wherein said reception section carries out pre-communication with said external device before obtaining print data from said external device;

20 a print condition setting section for setting a print condition for print data obtained by said reception section, wherein said print condition setting section sets a print condition in accordance with the content of said pre-communication; and

a print head for printing on a medium based on said print data in accordance with said print condition that has been set.